

Three youths arrested in Smart murder case

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By **FRANCI RICHARDSON**
Derry News Staff

Three juveniles arrested Monday night in connection with the May 1 murder of Gregory Smart were scheduled to be arraigned Tuesday in Hampton District Court.

Because of state laws protecting juvenile identities, little information is being made available by authorities about the three youths, who were arrested Monday night by Derry Police, with help from Seabrook Police.

Smart, 24, was discovered dead on the foyer of his Misty Morningside Drive condominium by his wife, Pamela, at about 10:30 p.m. May 1. He was

killed by a single gun shot to the head.

Because of missing jewelry and other items reported taken from the apartment, Mrs. Smart has said she is certain her husband had walked in on a burglary attempt and was killed as a result.

The youths were arrested by Derry Police at 11 p.m. Monday, Seabrook Police Lt. William Nickels said Tuesday. Nickels did say the arrest was not made in Seabrook, but declined any further comment on the location of the arrest.

He would not discuss any evidence that led to the arrest, saying the suspects were protected by juvenile law.

Since the suspects in custody are minors, the arraignment, where they will be advised of their rights and informed of the charges against them, is closed to the public. And police, under state law, cannot release any information that would divulge their identities.

According to a prepared statement issued by Attorney General John Arnold through the Derry Police, the state will attempt to try the juveniles as adults, so they may be charged with first-degree murder and accomplice to first-degree murder. Both are punishable by life imprisonment.

Currently, the three are
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charged with juvenile delinquency, which carries no minimum penalty.

Under juvenile law, police have 21 days to certify the suspects as adults, so they may be prosecuted for the higher charges.

Pamela Smart had no comment on the arrests this morning. A person who answered the phone at the home of her parents in Windham this morning hung up without commenting.